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Books for the birdhouse

Little Free Library takes flight PAGE 5

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Hire firefighters or close stations

Debate. Fire service review recommends closing, consolidating seven locations



RUTH DAVENPORT
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A Halifax regional councillor told his colleagues Tuesday that while voting to close fire stations seems unpalatable, the alternative isn't much better.

"The discussion we start to have around the table now is, 'Do we want to hire 75 firefighters? Or do we want to look at a plan that can largely cover what we need covered, according to some experts?'" Coun. Tim Outhit asked council's committee of the whole Tuesday.

The committee spent nearly five hours debating an operational review of Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency (HRFE), which includes the proposal to close stations on Lady Hammond Road, King Street and Patton Road as well as four stations on the eastern shore.

Implications

The committee voted to defer any decision on station closures until Fire Chief Doug Trussler could return with more information on the implications of keeping the stations open.

Fire Chief Doug Trussler told the committee the closures would free up the personnel for dedicated four-person crews for two aerial trucks, and cited extensive analysis that suggests the closures wouldn't affect response times negatively.

Several councillors disagreed with that, and said their residents are "overwhelmingly" opposed to the proposed closures.

"I've been representing Dartmouth for a long time and I've never heard from people as much as I've heard from them regarding the closure of this fire station," said Coun. Gloria McCluskey. "They're the people who pay the bills, they want this essential service."

But others said there's no point keeping stations open or worrying about response times if there aren't the minimum number of firefighters per truck to enter a burning building, a scenario some councillors said happens more often than residents might realize.

"I don't think we really understand how serious this is," said Outhit. "It's happened in my own district ... (firefighters) were two blocks from a fire station and they could not enter. There's two ways to fix that, combining stations as proposed, or hiring people."

Trussler told the committee having four-person crews on all apparatus 24-7 would require 75 new firefighters at a rough cost of $7.5 million per year if the stations aren't closed and consolidated as per his plan.



SILENT SALUTE

Military pallbearers from the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command carry the casket of Sgt. Andrew Joseph Doiron at Canadian Forces Base Trenton in Trenton, Ont., Tuesday. Story, 7. THE CANADIAN PRESS


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NEWS

Statistics

Violent crime dropped in Halifax last year



A Halifax officer. JEFF HARPER/METRO

A slight increase in the overall crime rate and a drop in violent offences highlighted the release of the municipality's 2014 crime statistics.

Overall, crime was up 0.74 per cent from 2013. Violent crime was down by nearly five per cent, while there was also a slight decline in property crimes, despite an increase in thefts of over $5,000.

RCMP and Halifax Regional Police released the report on Tuesday. Notably, there were six homicides in 2014, compared to eight the year before. Robberies and attempted murders were also down by close to 25 per cent.

The biggest increase came in the possession of stolen goods, with 774 incidents in 2014 compared with just 288 in 2013.

METRO

Sports

City to consult with teams over the relocation of ball fields

A senior city manager says the teams that use the ball fields behind Prince Arthur Junior High will be consulted about moving programming to another location.

Council approved a land swap with the province Tuesday that will see the ball fields and school demolished and replaced with a new primary-to-Grade 9 school.

Coun. Gloria McCluskey said that hasn't gone over well with sports teams.

"(The fields) have been used a long, long time, and I'm getting lots of emails, some not very happy and expressing it forcefully," she said.

City staff recommend upgrading the fields on Mount Edward Road as a substitute. A senior manager told McCluskey that staff will work with user groups to mitigate the impact of the change.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO



School groups flood the Emera Oval at lunchtime on Tuesday. The oval will wrap up its fifth season on March 20. It has firmly established itself as a fixture in the community. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Oval here to stay as fifth season wraps up

Recreation. Outdoor skating surface as popular as ever, drawing more than 120,000 people

BRAEDON CLARK
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Under a bright blue sky, Fred MacKenzie and Lloyd Forward lace up their skates and wait patiently for the Emera Oval to open.

It's just before noon on Tuesday. The Oval will be closed for the season in just 10 days, so there's no time to waste.

"We try to get here at least a couple times a week," MacKenzie said.

Just then, a school bus pulls up. Out come dozens of children, many with skates hanging over their shoulders and helmets in their hands. Within minutes, most are zipping around the ice with reckless abandon.

The Oval will wrap up its fifth season on March 20 and it has firmly established itself as a fixture in the community.

"We've had about 122,000 visitors so far this year," said Lisa Doyle, a supervisor at the Oval. "That's on par with last year, but we're expecting March Break to be very busy."

Every person who steps onto the ice is counted by an Oval employee, and the results are encouraging: the number of visitors has steadily increased since the Oval opened in 2010.

Some bad weather, mostly in February, meant that the Oval has been closed for all or part of 13 days so far this season.

"We're keeping our fingers crossed that we won't have to close again," Doyle said.

Regulars like MacKenzie and Forward, who lope around the rink at their own pace, are thankful the city decided to keep the Oval after the Canada Games were over.

"This is the best thing the city has done in a long, long time," Forward said as he stepped off the ice.

"It's great for the kids" — he said as many flew by — "and it's open to everyone, which is wonderful."

Quoted

"I hadn't skated for years until the Oval opened, so it's been instrumental in me getting back on the ice."
Lloyd Forward

Fire protection. Two firefighters back at Black Point

Halifax councillors have voted to reinstate two career firefighters to the Black Point station, a decision that the area councillor says still leaves his residents without proper protection.

Coun. Matt Whitman asked to have two career firefighters reinstated at Black Point, saying Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency acted "recklessly" to move them to Upper Tantallon last summer before recruiting a healthy replacement supply of volunteers.

"I don't have fire protection for 25 kilometres of my district," Whitman told council's committee of the whole. "I'm not asking you guys to do me a favour, just asking you to look after our residents who pay HRM taxes."

Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Chief Doug Trussler said the Black Point fire station receives an average of 36 calls a year for medical and firefighting aid.

He said he couldn't recommend putting two firefighters in the station, as the minimum needed for entering structure fires is four.

"(Residents) have some semblance of fire protection, but in my opinion you need four firefighters on a truck to say you have fire protection," said Trussler after the meeting.

The committee voted in favour of the motion, which means the two firefighters will be on duty from Monday to Friday.

"In the evening and weekends, I'm still unprotected," said Whitman after the meeting. "But now I'm protected 25 per cent of the time, which I wasn't for nine months." RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Concert

Halifax gets 2nd Weird Al show

Halifax is about to get even weirder this summer.

On Tuesday, Casino Nova Scotia announced a second show with Weird Al live at the Schooner Showroom for July 23. His first set on July 24 sold out within weeks.

The parody artist is set to visit over 100 cities throughout North America, Europe and Australia on his Mandatory World Tour following the release of his No. 1 album, Mandatory Fun.



Weird Al Yankovic METRO FILE

Mandatory Fun tunes include parodies of Pharrell Williams' Happy (Tacky), Robin Thicke's Blurred Lines (Word Crimes), Lorde's Royals (Foil) and Iggy Azalea's Fancy (Handy).

Tickets for the July 23 show go on sale Friday at 11 a.m. The show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets start at $60 and are available at the Ticket Atlantic Box Office, by phone at (902) 451-1221, at participating Atlantic Superstores, Casino Nova Scotia or at ticketatlantic.com.

Weird Al has built a career over decades and won three Grammys with hits such as Eat It, Like a Surgeon, Amish Paradise and White & Nerdy. METRO

Lotto wish list: False teeth and a new car

Dartmouth. James Hanlon claims second of four Set for Life grand-prize jackpots



James Hanlon laughs as he accepts his Set for Life winnings at the Atlantic Lottery Corporation's Dartmouth office on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

James Hanlon had a specific purchase in mind when he accepted his $675,000 cheque on Tuesday as a grand-prize winner of Atlantic Lottery's Set for Life.

"I'm gonna get myself a nice set of false teeth," Hanlon, flashing a gummy smile, said to raucous laughter at the Atlantic Lottery Corporation's office in Dartmouth.

"Then I'm getting a new car. I've already put the order in."

Hanlon, from tiny Isaacs Harbour in Guysborough County, bought the winning ticket at a Robin's Donuts in Antigonish.

It was the second of four grand-prize tickets in the current batch. He scratched off three Set for Life symbols but wasn't sure how much he'd won until the clerk scanned the ticket and gave him the big news.

"I came out of the washroom and found out I'd won," he said in the most understated way possible.

He opted for a lump-sum payment of $675,000 rather than the $1,000 a week for 25 years. Still, $675,000 should be more than enough for that car — and a brand new smile.

Also on hand for the cheque presentation was Hanlon's friend and neighbour Peter MacMillan, who lives in the same apartment building.

"When he told me he won, I wasn't quite sure whether or not to believe him," MacMillan said with a laugh. "He can be a bit of a joker, but people are going to believe him once they see that new car."

A handyman over the past few years, Hanlon has no plans to retire and enjoy his newfound winnings.

He has two children, but surprisingly he hasn't told either of them about his big win yet. When they do find out, they'll probably forgive him for the delay.

"They'll find out about it when I give each of them $50,000," Hanlon said with a chuckle.

BRAEDON CLARK/FOR METRO

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Neptune's Mary Poppins nabs eight Merritt nods

Neptune Theatre's magical nanny is leading the way for Merritt nominations this year.

On Tuesday, Theatre Nova Scotia announced the nominations in 14 categories for the annual Merritt Awards that recognize the best in professional theatre across the province from 2014.

Neptune Theatre's Mary Poppins is up for eight awards, including outstanding performance by a female actor in a leading role for Heather McGuigan as Mary, a supporting-role nod for Laura Caswell, outstanding costume design, production by an established company, set design and musical direction.



A scene from Mary Poppins. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Halifax's Shakespeare by the Sea also landed seven nominations with its plays Cinderelly and The Merchant of Venice.

The winners will be revealed at the Robert Merritt Awards gala hosted by Joanne Miller and Karen Bassett on March 23 at 7 p.m. at Casino Nova Scotia.

For tickets, call Theatre Nova Scotia at 425-3876 or visit theatrens.ca. Tickets are $25 each or $200 for a table of 10. METRO

Tiny library makes big impression

Literacy. Student's little project offers anyone in the chance to pick up a book or drop one off for someone else



HALEY RYAN
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At Halifax's smallest library, you don't need a card, you can check out books 24/7 — and you don't even need to fit through the door.

The Little Free Library outside the Open Mic House on Agricola Street has been stocked with free reads since September. That's when Alieda Blandford and friends constructed the roughly two-foot-wide space where anyone can pick up a book, return books for some one else, or drop off volumes they no longer want.

"It's a little more of a treasure hunt, because you never know what you're going to find," Blandford said Tuesday.



Alieda Blandford stocks up a little library on Agricola Street on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Blandford, a student from British Columbia at Dalhousie University's Master of Library and Information Studies program, gathered people together last year to create FYI Halifax, a group focused on local literacy projects and making information and reading as accessible as possible.

The small, colourful wooden house on a three-foot stand has a decidely smaller selection than the Halifax Central Library, but Blandford said visitors could stumble upon something they never thought to read.

She has been adding books every month or so thanks to a donation of new cookbooks, popular titles and other genres from Librarians Without Borders.

But she has expressed surprise at the number of books people keep dropping off that keep a "constant cycle all the time."

"Not only has it not had any damage but people are actually maintaining it," Blandford said. "I think people are really caring for it."

Halifax's public libraries are free, Blanford said, but this project removes the barrier of needing an address or identification to apply for a library card.

Blandford said a second Little Library was painted, with help from the Gottingen Street neighbourhood, during the Gottingen 250 event last September. She is hoping to find a home for it there before she graduates this spring, when she may leave the city for work.

"It survived all the ice and snow," Blandford said with a laugh.

"People are continually putting in books and taking books … I know that it's going to be just fine, and that's a good surprise."

Quoted

"Maybe it's (from) an anonymous person, but it's something that someone read and enjoyed at some point." Alieda Blandford

Threat of falling ice neutralized

The danger of ice and snow falling from the roof of city hall caused part of Barrington Street and surrounding sidewalks to be closed for about 15 minutes on Tuesday.

A commissionaire noticed the ice on Monday night while making his rounds, and the ice was removed the next day.

"Normally we would do that at night, but with rising temperatures on Tuesday we were concerned that the ice would melt and possibly fall onto the sidewalk," said city spokeswoman Tiffany Chase.

Warming up

Falling ice could again be an issue in Halifax on Wednesday as temperatures are expected to reach 7 C.

Fortunately, nothing fell from the building. Barrington Street was closed from George Street to Duke Street for a quarter-hour.

"While they were up there, our crew also noticed some ice built up on the Duke Street side of the building, and that was removed as well," Chase said. METRO

St. Patrick's Day

Parade cancelled due to sidewalk, road conditions

The luck of the Irish has run out when it comes to Halifax's St. Patrick's Day parade — at least this year.

The parade, scheduled for Saturday, has been cancelled due to poor road and sidewalk conditions.

"A number of participants have expressed concerns with problems getting floats organized because of ice," read a statement on the parade's website.

Next year's parade has already been scheduled. for March 12, 2016. METRO

Naheed Nenshi

Calgary mayor to address Chamber of Commerce

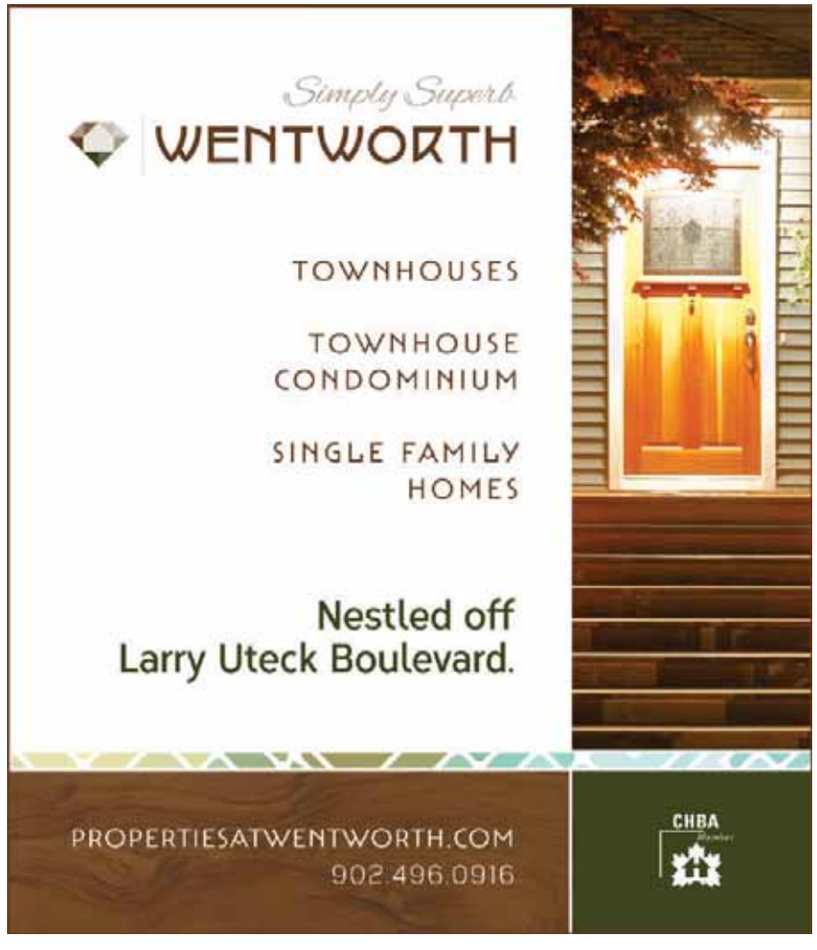
Calgary has long been one of Canada's fastest-growing cities, and its leader will soon be visiting Halifax to spread the message of economic prosperity.

On Thursday, Naheed Nenshi will speak to the Halifax Chamber of Commerce on the topic of Canada's urban future. Nenshi, who has been the mayor of Calgary since 2010 was awarded the 2014 World Mayor Prize by the City Mayors Foundation.

"Even though Calgary is on the other side of the country, there are some interesting parallels to the growth in both of our cities," said Nancy Conrad, senior vice-president of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. METRO



Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi
THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi, Keynote Speaker

Mayor Naheed Nenshi is currently serving his second term and is Calgary's 36th mayor. Prior to becoming mayor, he was Canada's first tenured professor in the field of nonprofit management at Mount Royal University's Bissett School of Business and a trusted business advisor to corporate leaders in Canada and the USA.

Mayor Nenshi's real passion is to make Canada's cities work better. He's the lead author of *Building Up: Making Canada's Cities Magnets for Talent and Engines of Development* and has long put his ideas to work in Calgary. He holds a Bachelor Commerce Degree (with distinction) from the University of Calgary and a Master in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, where he studied as a Kennedy Fellow.

For more information, visit downtownhalifax.ca
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The truck hit by the ladder on Tuesday. NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Flying ladder injures driver

Pictou County. Man, 42, in critical condition Tuesday



HALEY RYAN
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Bell Aliant is investigating an accident in Pictou County that police say resulted in a man suffering life-threatening injuries after a ladder from a service truck flew into the Ford F-150 pickup truck he was driving.

The RCMP reports that at around 11:10 a.m. Tuesday, a service vehicle and a pickup truck passed one another on the Sunrise Trail when the ladder came off the service vehicle and hit the truck, driven by a 42-year-old Pictou County man.

Sgt. Kevin Dunlevy of the Pictou County RCMP said the ladder hit the front driver's side of the truck.

"It¹s too early in the investigation to determine exactly what's going to take place. Right now it just looks like an accident," Dunlevy said.

The man was taken to Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow with life-threatening injuries before being flown to Halifax in a LifeFlight helicopter, police said.

Police could not confirm the type of service vehicle involved but Sarah Dawson, a Bell Aliant spokeswoman, said Tuesday they were looking into the incident.

"Our concerns at this time are with the injured driver and our employee," Dawson said in an email.

"We are co-operating fully with the RCMP investigation and will conduct our own internal investigation."

As of late Tuesday afternoon, Dunlevy said the Ford driver remained in critical condition.

RCMP said the other driver wasn't injured.

Quoted

"Our crews are highly trained to follow strict safety protocols."

Sarah Dawson, a Bell Aliant spokeswoman, in an email

Kentville

Capacity issues at Kentville hospital

Hospital beds are in high demand throughout the Annapolis Valley.

Tim Guest, a vice-president with Annapolis Valley Health, said it is common for a hospital to have overcrowding in the winter but that capacity pressures seldom last as long as this latest cycle that started in mid-January.

NDP MLA Dave Wilson, a former paramedic, issued a press release accusing the Grits of creating added stresses on the health care system. KING'S COUNTY REGISTER

N.S. Lobster fisherman falls overboard to death

The captain of a lobster fishing boat is dead after he fell overboard in waters off southwestern Nova Scotia.

RCMP say on Monday, Larry Sears, 64, was hauling lobster pots with two crew members on his boat the Four Ladies, when the trawl line became snarled in the hauler.

Sears tried to clear the snarl and was hauled overboard. Police say he was wearing a flotation device and was pulled from the water by the crew of a nearby fishing vessel.

Location

Larry Sears, who was from Shag Harbour, was pronounced dead after the boat arrived in West Head around 9 p.m. on Monday.

Search and rescue technicians from the Canadian Coast Guard and the military were dispatched to the scene. They tried to resuscitate Sears, but were unsuccessful. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Politics. Tories prejudiced against Muslims: Trudeau

Justin Trudeau is accusing the Harper government of deliberately stoking fear and prejudice against Muslim Canadians — employing the same kind of rhetoric that led in the past to some of Canada's most shameful displays of racism.

The Liberal leader drew a parallel Monday between the current government's rhetoric about Muslims and other "dark episodes" in Canada's history: The internment of Ukrainian, Japanese and Italian Canadians during the two world wars, the turning away boatloads of Jewish and Punjabi refugees and the imposition of residential schools for aboriginal children.

Since two Canadian soldiers were murdered by men with radical Islamist sympathies last October, Trudeau said the government has been blurring the line between the genuine threat terrorism posed to national security and "simple prejudice."

"I believe they have done it deliberately and I believe what they have done is deeply wrong," Trudeau said in the text of a speech delivered in Toronto to the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada.

"It is nothing less than an attempt to play on people's fears and foster prejudice, directly toward the Muslim faith. This is not the spirit of Canadian liberty, my friends." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Veils 'anti-woman'

Stephen Harper is doubling down on his aversion to face-covering veils worn by some Muslim women, calling them the product of a culture that is "anti-women." The prime minister also says wearing a niqab is unacceptable and contrary to Canadian values.

Civil liberties

Blaney dismisses concerns over anti-terror bill

Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney is trying to assure Canadians that proposed anti-terrorism measures won't run roughshod over civil liberties. In his testimony Tuesday at committee hearings examining the federal legislation, Blaney dismissed concerns the new provisions would allow the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to squelch or infiltrate environmental protests that fall outside the letter of the law. The measures are needed to protect the public, Blaney said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Expense scandal

Sen. Mike Duffy's fraud and bribery trial starts

The provocative opening statements of the Crown and defence might start Sen. Mike Duffy's fraud and bribery trial off with a bang, but what follows is expected to be less dramatic. The beginning is expected to dwell on the world of Senate financial rules. The answer to what constitutes a legitimate travel or per diem claim will go the heart of the dispute over whether Duffy's expenses constituted fraud or not. Duffy faces 31 charges relating to alleged breach of trust, fraud and bribery. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Slain soldier honoured in repatriation ceremony

Trenton, Ont. Sgt. Andrew Joseph Doiron was shot and killed in what has been described as a friendly-fire incident in Iraq



Military pallbearers from the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command carry the flag-draped casket of Sgt. Andrew Joseph Doiron on Tuesday at Canadian Forces Base Trenton in Trenton, Ont. Inset: Sgt. Doiron was killed by friendly fire during operation Impact on March 6, in northern Iraq. LARS HAGBERG/THE CANADIAN PRESS; INSET: CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scores stood solemn watch as the body of a Canadian soldier killed in Iraq returned home Tuesday in a once-common ceremony that has grown rare since the end of the country's mission in Afghanistan.

Many saluted silently as the flag-draped casket carrying Sgt. Andrew Joseph Doiron began the journey to Toronto following a repatriation ceremony at Canadian Forces Base Trenton in eastern Ontario.

Among those paying their respects were Gov. Gen. David Johnston, Defence Minister Jason Kenney and other dignitaries, as well as dozens who gathered outside the base and along the procession route.

Hunter Vickers, 19, came from nearby Belleville, saying her family's military background has made her appreciate soldiers' hard work and sacrifice.

"I haven't missed a repatriation ceremony yet and I'm not about to, regardless of the circumstances," she said.

Reg Kirkland, who served in the military for 33 years before retiring, said the tributes to Canada's fallen soldiers are "something we should all come out to if we can."

"I try to make them all," he said.

After the ceremony, a motorcade carrying Doiron's casket headed west to Toronto, where an autopsy will be conducted.

That stretch of highway became known as the "Highway of Heroes" during Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan, which claimed the lives of 158 Canadian soldiers.

People began to line the route hours in advance, with some setting up Canadian flags on highway overpasses in the Toronto area even before the ceremony got underway.

Doiron was shot and killed in what has been described as a friendly-fire incident in the darkness of night as his special forces unit was returning to an observation post.

Officials with the Kurdish peshmerga have blamed the Canadians for the shooting, a claim Canadian officials have denied.

Kurdish officials say their forces, allies of Canada in the fight against ISIL, opened fire on the unsuspecting Canadians at the front line, after they showed up unannounced.

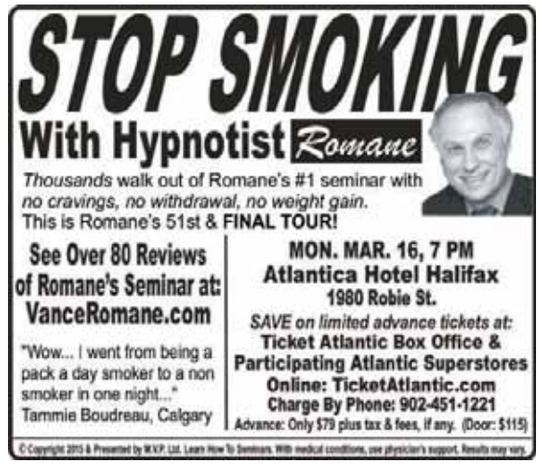
Canadian officials have said the Canadians were not at fault and had been at the same position earlier in the day and informed the Kurds they would return later that night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Others injured

Three other Canadians were wounded in the firefight.

- One was evacuated to Germany while the other two were still in the Iraqi city of Irbil for treatment of more minor injuries.







Myanmar. Police arrest 127 at protest of education law

Hundreds of riot police charged at students protesting Myanmar's new education law on Tuesday, pummelling them with batons and then dragging them into trucks, bringing a quick, harsh end to a week-long standoff. Authorities said more than 120 people were arrested.

Security forces threw stones and jumped over fences as they broke up the demonstration. Dozens of students and monks were chased into a Buddhist monastery, said Honey Oo, a student leader.

"Many people were beaten and several arrested," she said by telephone.

After the crackdown, police were seen celebrating and shouting, "Victory! Victory!"

Information minister Ye Htut said 127 people, including 65 students, were detained and 16 police and eight demonstrators had been injured.

While there were no reported deaths, Tuesday's violence served as a reminder of Myanmar's recent days of brutal, authoritarian rule. A European Union delegation that has been training Myanmar's police in crowd control issued a statement expressing deep concern over the force used against protesters and calling for a formal investigation.

Demonstrators were joined by monks and other activists, bringing their number to around 200 in the last nine days, when they were blocked by police and began a sit-in on a road near a monastery in Letpadan, about 140 kilometres north of Yangon.

The two sides appeared close to an agreement early Tuesday, with police stating students could march to a nearby town and then be transported to Yangon by government-provided trucks, but then demanded that protesters refrain from shouting slogans or waving flags.

Police abruptly turned on demonstrators, chasing them with batons and sticks, beating and kicking them as they were dragged into the waiting trucks, according to Associated Press photographers.

In recent days the government has crushed several protests in and around Yangon, usually by dragging protesters into trucks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Student demonstrators protest on Tuesday in Letpadan, 140 kilometres north of Myanmar's main city of Yangon. GEMUNU AMARASINGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French athletes die in helicopter crash

Argentina. Sailing champion Florence Archaud, Olympians Camille Muffat and Alexis Vastine had been filming a reality TV show



From left: Sailing champion Florence Arthaud, French Olympic gold medal swimmer Camille Muffat and Olympic boxer Alexis Vastine. Two helicopters carrying the French sports stars who were filming a popular European reality show crashed in a remote part of Argentina, killing 10 people, including Muffat, Vastine and Arthaud.
MICHEL LIPCHITZ, MICHAEL SOHN AND PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Much of France was in mourning and looking for answers on Tuesday following the crash of two helicopters in a remote part of Argentina that killed 10 people, three of them French sports stars taking part in a glitzy new reality TV show.

Olympic champion swimmer Camille Muffat, Olympic boxer and bronze-medallist Alexis Vastine, and pioneering sailor Florence Arthaud died in Monday's crash. They had been among the contestants in the reality TV show Dropped.

The helicopters apparently collided in the air near Villa Castelli, about 1,170 kilometres northwest of Buenos Aires, La Rioja regional Secretary of Security Cesar Angulo told TN television. All 10 people on board — eight French nationals and two Argentine pilots — were killed.

Photographs and mobile-phone footage showed the burning wreckage of the helicopters in dry scrubland of a sparsely populated area along the Andes mountain range that separates Argentina and Chile.

The crash is believed to be one the deadliest incidents related to reality TV shows, a subgenre of which involves taking celebrities and others to far-flung places to face challenges against the natural elements, both physical and mental.

French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said France's foreign ministry is in contact with authorities in Argentina to determine what caused the crash. President Francois Hollande expressed the "immense sadness" about those who died.

The Paris prosecutor's office opened an investigation for possible involuntary manslaughter, which is to be conducted by a research unit of the French air transport police, a French police official said.

The crew had arrived Sunday in Villa Castelli, where it had previously filmed a version of Dropped for Switzerland and Denmark, said Mayor Andres Navarrete. The remaining victims were identified as Laurent Sbasnik, Lucie Mei-Dalby, Volodia Guinard, Brice Guilbert and Edouard Gilles, as well as pilots Juan Carlos Castillo and Roberto Abate.

French Secretary of State for Sport Thierry Braillard said on the BFM TV channel that "French sport has lost three stars this morning."

Other Dropped contestants on hand included former France and Arsenal striker Sylvain Wiltord, ice skating champion Philippe Candeloro, former Olympic swimming champion Alain Bernard and veteran cyclist Jeannie Longo. None of them was involved in the accident.

William Forgues, Muffat's companion, told i-Tele cable news channel that she was instructed not to reveal details about the show filming, but "told everybody that it was great. She was not forced (to do things). She was where she wanted to be."

"C'est la vie," he added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'India's Daughter.' Rape documentary debuts in U.S.

A rape documentary banned from airing in India received its U.S. premiere at a star-studded event on Monday that included actresses Meryl Streep and Freida Pinto.

The screening of India's Daughter at Baruch College began with a vigil as Streep lit about a dozen candles honouring the medical student who died after being gang-raped on a bus in 2012. Organizers said about 650 people attended the event.

"Tonight we light these candles to honour the value and the work of Jyoti Singh's short, promising life," Streep said. "She was India's daughter. Tonight she's our daughter too."

The woman was attacked when she and a male companion boarded a private bus in Delhi. The documentary details a brutal account of how six men beat her friend and then gang-raped her in the bus before tossing her onto the street. She was found naked on the side of the road and later died of her injuries. Four men were convicted and sentenced to death for the rape and murder.

The documentary by British filmmaker Leslee Udwin, herself a rape victim, was to have aired on an Indian television station on Sunday, International Women's Day, but a court order halted the broadcast.

"This is not just an India problem, this is a problem that inflicts almost every country in the world," Pinto said. "There's not a single country in 2015 that is free of sexual violence against women." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, U.K.

Syria-bound British teens won't be prosecuted upon their return

Three British schoolgirls who travelled to Syria to join the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant won't be prosecuted for terrorism if they return, a senior British police officer said Tuesday.

Mark Rowley, head of counterterrorism for the Metropolitan Police, told lawmakers "we have no evidence to support involvement in terrorism."

Rowley said the flow of young Britons to Syria continued, with up to 700 known to have gone to join militant groups.

"That's a minimum," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oil trains. Spate of recent derailments raises alarm

Four trains hauling crude oil have derailed in Canada and the U.S. since mid-February, rupturing tank cars, spilling their contents, polluting waterways and igniting fires that burned for days.

The derailments have deepened safety concerns that if an oil-train accident were to occur in a populated area, the results could be disastrous.

Rail and hazardous materials safety experts said the number of accidents is going up because the oil boom in Canada and the U.S. has dramatically increased the amount of oil shipped by rail. Last year, railroads moved 493,126 tank cars of crude oil, compared to 407,761 in 2013. That's up from just 9,500 cars in 2008 before the hydraulic fracturing boom took off in the Bakken region of North Dakota, Montana and Canada.

Most of the accidents in the U.S., as well as the Lac-Mégantic derailment, involved trains hauling Bakken crude. Government tests show Bakken crude is more volatile than most crude oil.

Experts say many factors can cause accidents, from too great a speed, to operator fatigue, to cold weather. When it is very cold, as it has been across much of North America, steel rails and train car wheels can contract and become brittle. If the steel has a manufacturing flaw, no matter how small, it can spread rapidly in the cold weather.

Canadian and U.S. officials are working on new regulations to increase the safety of train operations and of the special tank cars that carry oil, including tank cars that have thicker shells and electronically controlled brakes that stop cars at the same time rather than sequentially.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"You get real cold weather like this and a rail can just snap ... a wheel will shatter like a piece of glass."

Ed Dobranetski, a former U.S. National Transportation Safety Board rail accidents investigator.



Target's troubles spread to the U.S.

People leave Target Corp.'s downtown Minneapolis corporate headquarters Tuesday. After shedding 17,600 employees in Canada following its decision to pull out of the country, Target is continuing the exercise in the U.S. The retailer said Tuesday it is laying off 1,700 workers and eliminating another 1,400 unfilled positions as part of a restructuring aimed at saving $2 billion US over the next two years. A Target spokeswoman said the cuts will come primarily at headquarters locations in the Minneapolis area, where the company employs about 13,500 people. COURTESY STAR TRIBUNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Children's medicine

Manufacturer agrees to pay $25M

A manufacturer of Infants' and Children's Tylenol and Children's Motrin has agreed to plead guilty to a criminal charge it sold products that contained metal particles, say court documents unsealed Tuesday. McNeil Consumer Healthcare agreed to pay $25 million US to resolve the case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
78.86 cents (- 0.53¢)

TSX
14,641.76 (- 212.73)

OIL
$48.29 US (- $1.71)

GOLD
$1,160.10 US (- $6.40)

Natural gas: $2.732 (+5.4)
Dow Jones: 17,662.94 (- 332.78)

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VOICES

TV COUNTING DOWN TO ITS FINAL EPISODE

With HBO's announcement that they are switching over to an internet -based service, it's only a matter of time before cable dies for good



MATT LAFORGE
readers@metronews.ca

You see Tim Cook, resplendent in a half-zip mock-neck pullover, next to a 30-foot projection of Mickey Mouse on a watch face and you say to yourself, "This is the most significant consumer-technology announcement of the week." But you're forgetting HBO. You're forgetting the real news.

The real news, in case you missed it: HBO is breaking up with cable.

Richard Plepler, head of the pay-TV giant, showed up at Apple's big unveiling on Monday to tout HBO NOW, a new internet-based service, first hinted at in October, that will launch in time for the Games of Thrones premiere in April and that will make available to viewers who don't have a cable or satellite subscription a large and up-to-date trove of the network's much-loved and much-coveted offerings. Deadwood, The Wire, The Sopranos — the whole gang (save Dream On, Larry Sanders and a bunch of other stuff) will be accessible on Apple TV and all the other iThings.

Need I even mention that this service is only planned for the U.S.? That's right — it's yet another boon for the American media consumer (add it to the reasonable mobile data rates and that seemingly bottomless Netflix selection) and yet another occasion for the Canadian media consumer to feel sorry for herself as the words "Content not available in your territory" flash in her mind's eye.

Except that to see the HBO-Apple deal simply as another treat that we're not getting (right away) is a typically Canadian overemphasis on the superficial downside.

Let's suspend the pity party long enough to recall what's been going on up here the past couple of years: Millions of Canadians enthusiastically sign up for Netflix; thousands cut the cable cord; the Conservatives use time in a throne speech to promise to unbundle cable packages; then, later, they vow in a tweet never to tax Netflix and YouTube; Rogers and Bell launch Shomi and Crave, so-called over-the-top services that provide to their TV subscribers streams of shows and movies not available on Netflix; the CRTC issues a surprise fiat that undermines the value of Bell's 2017 Super Bowl broadcast rights by preventing the broadcaster from subbing out American ads during the game. There's a pattern forming on both sides of the border, and the HBO-Apple deal is just the latest manifestation of it.



The pattern is intricately disjointed when inspected up close, but, at a distance, its broad form is easy to discern: TV as we know it in this country is about to be a thing of the past.

The capacity to stream video via the Internet — no airwaves, insulated coax or satellite relay required — means the TV-signal distributors (i.e., the cable and satellite companies) no longer hold all the cards. The government knows it, the Internet-based startups know it, the distributors definitely know it, and the networks know it, too.

The media blogger Steve Faguy made the situation plain a few months ago in an interview on the Canadaland podcast: There's nothing preventing every Canadian channel from streaming online, and the only reason they're not already doing it is that, for the moment, despite Netflix and cord-cutting, the traditional regulated broadcast system is still where the bulk of viewers are found.

But there's no reason why that can't change and quickly.

It's in this light that the HBO-Apple deal is instructive: That HBO, the consummate premium cable-and-satellite brand, is now taking the first step toward disintermediating its cable and satellite partners should be seen by Canadian observers not as a power move on the part of one-of-a-kind player, but as a sure sign of things to come.

Big-ticket movie-and-prestige-drama channels constitute one of three main categories of TV product that wed people to their cable bills; news and live sports are the others.

Now the biggest of the big-tickets is stepping out. What's to stop the NHL or NFL from doing the same? Broadcast-rights contracts? Those don't last forever.

If you're a cable or satellite provider, you can take solace in the fact that you'll still be selling internet access when all the TV shows are streamed on the internet.

Or at least you will be until Tim Cook reaches into his pullover drawer and announces that Apple is going to start giving the internet away for free.

Matt LaForge is Metro Canada's managing editor of Canada, world and business.

Character matters — and it's worth the expense



JESSE STANIFORTH
readers@metronews.ca

There are good reasons why governments see fit to intervene in granting birth certificates to parents who wish to give their children unusual names.

They don't want children to be named things that will cause offense to others ("God Hates Italians Johnson"), or to be named things that will bring hurt or ridicule upon them ("Ugly Moron Smith").

These are reasonable examples of government interference in the naming of children.

But the Northwest Territories' Vital Statistics Department went too far when they told Shene Catholique-Valpy that she couldn't register her newborn baby under her given name — Sahai?a, Chipewyan for "when the sun peeks through."

The reason they gave was that the name included a character that's not part of the Roman alphabet, and therefore couldn't be included on a birth certificate or on federal documents like passports.

If you don't know how to pronounce that name, that's fine. Like me, you're not used to characters that indicate a glottal stop — a sound we don't use in English.

One might argue this is our problem, as English speakers, and not the problem of the mother or her child.

However, we can all agree that the child has a name, whether or not all of us can pronounce it.

Being asked by the territorial government to register her birth under a different one, implying a different pronunciation and meaning, is an insult to Catholique-Valpy.

In Canada, names matter more to many Indigenous people than non-Natives may think.

For several decades now, there has been a growing demand for Indigenous people to reclaim the languages, cultures, and traditions that Canada spent more than 100 years trying to destroy in what former prime minister Paul Martin called the "cultural genocide" of Residential Schools.

That recovery of history is without a doubt an inspiration to the growing chorus of voices demanding that Sahai?a Catholique-Valpy get a birth certificate with her actual name on it. (Up to this point she doesn't have one, nor a health card: her mother has been paying out of pocket for her medical treatment.)

The only strength of the argument in favour of denying her a birth certificate is that it would cause bureaucrats would to have to figure out a way to include in Canadian identification documents languages like Chipewyan that existed on this land for thousands of years before Europeans decided it was Canada.

That will have a financial cost, and we can expect a protest from the usual aggrieved voices over the outrage of the government spending money to include the characters required to name all Canadians in its documents.

However, Canada isn't doing enough right now to foster a healthy relationship between its government and its First Peoples.

This is a problem both on grand and minor scales. When the Assembly of First Nations is consistently at odds with the feds over issues like education we see the tension in its more dramatic form.

Yet when a Chipewyan woman can't even get her child a birth certificate and health card because bureaucrats are not willing to use characters outside the Roman alphabet the indignation we are hearing is no less fiery, and no less pressing to resolve with common sense and decency.

It will cost money to reprogram some computers, but building better relationships with Canada's first peoples — both in big and small ways — should seem worth the expense.

Jesse Staniforth is a Montreal-based journalist and a regular contributor to the Nation magazine, serving the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee and the communities around James Bay.

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In the promised Zoolander

The obvious highlight of Paris Fashion Week so far?

The sight of veteran male model — and signature-look Blue Steel innovator — Derek Zoolander triumphantly returning to the runway for Valentino, sporting a custom Night Butterflies brocade suit and overcoat.

OK, not really. But Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson did make a surprise appearance in Paris, using the catwalk as a means to cleverly announce that a sequel to the 2001 comedy Zoolander is officially happening. The long-awaited followup has been talked up for years, with Stiller discussing plot ideas in interviews as far back as 2010.

Justin Theroux reportedly wrote the script, with Penelope Cruz on board to star alongside Stiller, Wilson and Will Ferrell. No release date has been set yet.



Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson. ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Mom, please don't Express Yourself

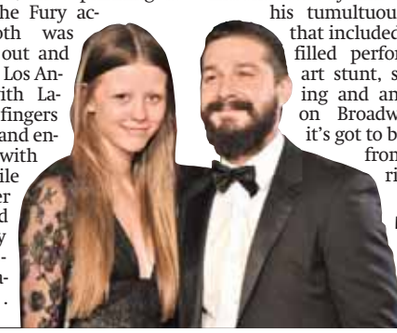
So what's it like to be the 18-year-old daughter of an iconic, boundary-pushing sex symbol? Pretty awkward, as it turns out. Madonna admits to Carson Daly during a Today show interview that oldest daughter Lourdes isn't dealing too well with some of mom's racier material. "(Lourdes) is horrified by all of it," Madonna explains. "She just wants me to be her mom." That's one request Madonna has apparently been taking very seriously, especially now Lourdes is off to the University of Michigan as a freshman. It turns out Madonna can still embarrass her daughter the old-fashioned way. "I'm very, you know, worried. 'Are you OK? Are you getting enough sleep? Are you eating right?,'" she admits. "I was worried about the fact that she didn't have enough towels, Q-tips, you know." Lourdes, it seems, just can't win.



Madonna and daughter Lourdes

Shia and Mia to make it official

Apparently Shia LaBeouf's new rattail isn't that much of a turn-off, because if model Mia Goth's new jewelry is any indication, she's planning to marry the Fury actor. Goth was spotted out and about in Los Angeles with LaBeouf, fingers of one hand entwined with his while the other sported a pretty impressive diamond. And yes, it was on that finger. The pair began dating in 2013 after working together on Lars Von Trier's Nymphomaniac, and she stood by him through his tumultuous 2014 that included a tear-filled performance art stunt, skywriting and an arrest on Broadway, so it's got to be all up from here, right?



Mia Goth and Shia LaBeouf

Happy as a Robin

In case you were wondering, House of Cards star Robin Wright is happier than ever with Ben Foster, her on-again, off-again fiancé. So there, Sean Penn. "Perhaps it's not ladylike (to say), but I've never laughed more, read more, or (had orgasms) more than with Ben," she tells Vanity Fair. "He inspires me to be the best of myself. There's so much to learn. It's endless. How great! It took me a long time to grow up. Love is possible as life is possible."



Robin Wright

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Juno you can do better

As the Junos roar into Hamilton this weekend, it's clear the venerable awards show has grown a bit rusty. Below are five ways the Junos might be improved.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Charm Drake

Drake's gold throne sits atop an enviable nexus of critical adoration, sales supremacy and superstardom. Rightfully, he should have many Junos alongside his other gilded baubles. But he hasn't appeared at the show since 2011, when he was shut out — and, his rap peers argue, embarrassed — in six different categories, despite hosting the show in his hometown. Lord knows, his absence is deeply felt.

An M.I.A. MC

No disrespect intended to Jacob Hoggard (below), but his band Hedley had already been announced as a Junos performer when CTV said he would also host. The decision generated little discernible buzz for the show — as did having Classified, Johnny Reid and Serena Ryder collectively host last year. The three shows prior to that were helmed by Michael Bublé, William Shatner and Drake, who infused the Junos with a greater degree of star power. If the host is unlikely to bring in new viewers, why not go without one — as the Junos did successfully in 2010?



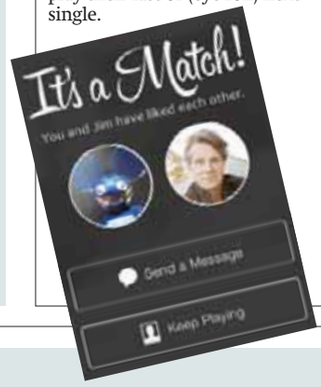


Take more risks

Organizers seemed to make an effort to reel in newcomers this year, including Shawn Mendes, Magic! and Kiesza (above), along with veteran Deadmau5. But what took so long? The Junos should endeavour for early adopter status more often, and broaden their idea of relevance. For instance: Wouldn't a few of Grimes' roughly 270,000 Twitter followers tune in to see the eccentric electronic composer's Junos debut, regardless of her album sales?

Play Cancon Tinder

The Grammys haphazardly play musical matchmaker and often it doesn't work out. But the Junos have had better luck in the rare instances they've coerced collaboration — Deadmau5 and Lights come to mind, as does the increasingly historic pairing of Drake and Justin Bieber. Continuing to link Canucks might generate more excitement than seeing the same familiar faces play their last or (eye-roll) next single.





Conquer insecurity

Can we cut the international album of the year category altogether? The only rational justification for its existence is to persuade non-Canadian stars to attend the show — and if that's the plan, it's been failing for years. Unless CTV is keeping secret an appearance by Katy Perry, Taylor Swift or Lorde (above). While this category has allowed us the juicy opportunity to accurately refer to Eminem as a two-time Juno winner, its time has come and gone.

Music

Pharrell, Thicke copied Marvin Gaye for Blurred Lines, jury finds

A jury awarded Marvin Gaye's children $7.3 million on Tuesday after determining singers Robin Thicke and Pharrell Williams copied their father's music to create Blurred Lines, the biggest hit song of 2013.

Marvin Gaye's daughter Nona Gaye wept as the verdict was being read and was hugged by her attorney, Richard Busch.

The verdict could tarnish the legacy of Williams, a reliable hit-maker who has won Grammy Awards and appears on NBC's music competition show The Voice.

An attorney for Thicke and Williams has said a decision in favour of Gaye's heirs could have a chilling effect on musicians who try to emulate an era or another artist's sound.

The Gayes' lawyer branded Williams and Thicke liars who went beyond trying to emulate the sound of Gaye's late-1970s music and copied the R&B legend's hit Got to Give It Up outright.

Thicke told jurors he didn't write Blurred Lines, which Williams testified he crafted in about an hour in mid-2012.

Williams told jurors that Gaye's music was part of the soundtrack of his youth. But the seven-time Grammy winner said he didn't use any of it to create Blurred Lines.

Gaye's children — Nona, Frankie and Marvin Gaye III — sued the singers in 2013 and were present when the verdict was read.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Robin Thicke, left, and Pharrell Williams. GETTY IMAGES

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Beyond the beach in Punta Cana

Trend. Tour operators realize travellers want more than just a rum-soaked resort stay: Enter the boutique resort with immersive cultural activities

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
life@metronews.ca

This time of year, most Canadians are ready to shed their down-filled parkas and salt-and-grime-covered boots in favour of bathing suits and flip-flops — and soak up some vitamin D.

But not everyone wants to stay in a crowded all-inclusive where they don't see life beyond the walls of the resort. These days, there's a trend toward smaller, boutique resorts offering a more personalized experience, and more of a focus on sustainable tourism and experiencing local culture.

Sunwing Vacations, for example, recently opened the adults-only CHIC Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic, which offers a Miami South Beach vibe — with only 323 stylish suites. The resort features a poolside DJ booth, "mermaid" pool, oxygen bar, culinary "chef's table" experience, and spa with hydrotherapy circuit. And lots of mood lighting.

In an atypical move for a tour operator, Sunwing purchased the resort, so it "owns" the experience from start to finish. "It's working really well for us," says Jaqueline Grossman, senior director of marketing with Sunwing Travel Group. "It allows us to extend the whole value proposition across the entire experience, from the time you get on the plane with champagne service (through your stay at the resort)."



CHIC Punta Cana offers a Miami South Beach vibe and tours through the DR. PHOTOS: VAWN HIMMELSBACH/METRO

While Canadians crave beach time, they still want to get off the resort — at least for a day or two. Country Safaris, a local tour operator that works in conjunction with Nexus Tours, takes tourists off the resort to see the countryside, visit villages and sample Dominican coffee, cacao and cigars.

It's also a chance for tourists to purchase locally produced products, such as coconut oil and rum, straight from the farmers.

The DR is also seeing a big ecotourism trend, says Julio Lopez, a tour guide with Nexus Tours. It has responded by partnering with The Nature Conservancy, The Smithsonian and the United Nations, turning more than 25 per cent of the country into natural parks, reserves and marine sanctuaries.

Isla Saona — a postcard-perfect tropical island — is part of a protected national park system that makes up a good chunk of the Caribbean coastline.

Tourists can visit the island with tour operators such as Nexus Tours for a day of snorkelling, swimming and sunbathing on miles of inhabited beaches.

Closer to Punta Cana, tourists can head to Samaná Bay — one of the first whale sanctuaries in the world — to spot humpback whales, or the Indigenous Eyes Ecological Preserve for a dip in a freshwater lagoon believed to hold medicinal properties.

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Drink it

- **Mama Juana.** In the DR, it won't be long before someone offers you a shot of the local drink of choice: Mama Juana. Originally prepared by the Taino Indians as a medicinal drink to cure a range of ailments from headaches and joint pain to poor libido, the modern-day version consists of a mix of twigs, barks and herbs steeped for days in rum, red wine and local honey. Just don't drink too much, or what ails you will be a nasty hangover.



Tours off the resort offer travellers the chance to see some Dominican industries like coffee plantations.

Two nations, one island

Not everyone who visits the Dominican Republic realizes it shares the island with Haiti. But while the DR is considered a tropical paradise, Haiti remains one of the poorest countries in the world. This goes back to colonial times, when the Spanish handed over the western third of the island to the French in 1697. Hundreds of thousands of African slaves were brought there to help produce sugar, coffee, cacao and cotton. But the slaves rebelled and gained independence in 1804, renaming the former colony Haiti. However, independence was followed by rebellions, coups and dictatorships. Massive deforestation and a coastline prone to hurricanes have added to the country's socio-economic problems.

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Now is the time to spring for a golf trip to San Diego



The South Course at the municipally-owned Torrey Pines is set on seaside bluffs. COURTESY JOANNE DIBONA, SANDIEGO.ORG



If golf isn't your thing, San Diego offers plenty of scenic hiking opportunities. COURTESY LISA FIELD/SANDIEGO.ORG

California. There are more than 90 courses here to swing your sticks, but that's not all this city offers



BRIAN KENDALL
canadiangolftraveller.com

For winter-weary Canadian golfers, a visit to San Diego is like a first glimpse of paradise.

California's most southerly metropolis offers abundant sunshine, idyllic year-round temperatures and is home to more than 90 golf courses in every imaginable setting—from oceanfront to desert to mountains.

Once an uninspiring Navy town, today's San Diego features a glittering skyline, world-class shopping and dining, and is recognized as an ideal family destination, with attractions such as SeaWorld, LEGOLAND and the USS Midway Museum.

Perhaps most impressive is Balboa Park, a verdant oasis in the heart of the city that is home to 15 museums and the renowned San Diego Zoo.

Golfers find themselves almost overwhelmed with choices. But at the top of any must-play list are the world-famous South and North Courses at municipally-owned Torrey Pines Golf Course.

Set on seaside bluffs just north of the tony suburb of La Jolla, the South Course was where Tiger Woods clinched an epic come-from-behind victory over Rocco Mediate in the 2008 U.S. Open. And looming over this spectacular setting is the Lodge at Torrey Pines, a popular resort where the golf theme extends to the Scottish kilts worn by the bellboys.

Almost as famous as Torrey Pines is Omni La Costa Resort and Spa, nestled in coastal foothills about a 25-minute drive north of downtown San Diego. The luxury resort's two recently renovated parkland-style layouts, Champions and Legends, have together hosted 37 PGA Tour events.

San Diego's golf roster runs the gamut from bare-bones municipal tracks to bucket-list courses with palatial clubhouses and sky-high green fees.

Unmatched in its elegance is Grand Del Mar resort, tucked in the scenic Sorrento Valley north of the city. The Mediterranean-inspired retreat includes Grand Del Mar Golf Club, a brilliant Tom Fazio design punctuated by dramatic shifts in elevation.

Another of Grand del Mar's headline attractions is Addison, one of California's premier fine dining restaurants. Fortunately, memorable golf doesn't have to bust the budget in San Diego.

Just across soaring Coronado Bay Bridge from downtown is one of the state's most popular municipal courses. More than 100,000 rounds a year are played at Coronado Golf Course, an affordable jewel ($35 weekdays; $40 weekends) that winds past the iconic Hotel Del Coronado, where the Marilyn Monroe classic Some Like it Hot was filmed in the late 1950s.

TRAVEL TO SAN DIEGO WAS PROVIDED BY THE SAN DIEGO TOURISM AUTHORITY.

Beyond the links

- **Balboa Park.** The largest urban cultural park in the U.S. offers meticulously maintained gardens, hiking trails and 15 museums, including the San Diego Air and Space Museum and the San Diego Natural History Museum. But Balboa Park's most popular attraction is the San Diego Zoo, home to more than 4,000 animals. The zoo's menagerie includes the largest population of giant pandas in the U.S.



Habits that may be holding you back at work

Tips. When it comes to a stalled career, sometimes you can only blame yourself

LAUREN MARINIGH
TalentEgg.ca

Do you feel held back at work?

It's easy to blame competition or management when you hit a brick wall in your career.

But it's important to remember that there is always something you can be doing to change your situation — and the first step is recognizing what you might be doing (or not doing) that's stopping your career advancement.

Not speaking up

One of the things that may be holding you back from moving up the ladder in your workplace is keeping quiet.

Speaking up when you have an idea or something to contribute shows your employer that you not only care about your job, but also the company you work for. Sharing your input is also a great opportunity to demonstrate to your employer that you are capable of much more than doing assigned tasks, which could lead to bigger and better opportunities within your workplace.

It's also important to make sure you're asking questions. If you don't understand something, need more clarification, or you just want to learn more, don't hesitate to speak up and ask. People often fear that not understanding something may make them look bad; on the contrary, speaking up and asking the right questions will show your eagerness to learn.

Not taking initiative

There is almost nothing more irritating to an employer than having to babysit one of their workers. They want to see what you are capable of — but if they're constantly on your back about what you are working on, they are not likely going to give you additional opportunities.

Taking initiative and getting stuff done before it is asked of you is a quality that employers look for in their employees. Be the type of employee that your boss doesn't have to worry about because you are always one step ahead.



Climbing that corporate ladder takes more than just simply showing up to work every day. ISTOCK

This means knowing what tasks you have for the day. Get your work done on time (or ahead of time, if possible). If you have questions, reach out to someone — don't wait for someone to come up to you. If you're done your work, ask if there's anything you can assist with.

Lacking positivity

No matter how efficient you are at your work or how intelligent you are, you'll have a difficult time advancing if you don't demonstrate that you enjoy the work. Employers will be hesitant to promote someone who doesn't seem passionate, especially since individuals in management positions are often expected to represent the company in a positive fashion to both their team and clients.

Managers usually base their judgments on observations. If they get the impression you don't enjoy your work (even if you do!), then the outcome will still be the same.

Luckily, this is fairly easy to remedy. Smile and greet your colleagues on a daily basis. It may feel forced at first, but you'll find you'll adopt to your new habits soon enough!

Not showing commitment

Not showing that you're committed to your job and workplace can be a huge reason you aren't advancing. Employers look for people willing to go above and beyond, who aren't just there for a paycheque.

Show commitment: you may need to come in early or stay late to get a project done on time, or hook your email up to your cell phone to stay on top of everything.

Perhaps you're doing this already, and management hasn't noticed. Consider sending your manager a casual update, letting them know what you've been working on and how it's going. Briefly mention the processes you've implemented, or the different steps you've taken to make sure everything is taken care of. This is a subtle way of making sure you're on their radar!

Tech tips for job-hunting

Most students are encouraged to look for jobs during their final year of college or university. If you haven't been lucky enough to land a job right away, job hunting can become an anxiety-inducing, exhausting experience.

Staying organized is the best way to keep your head on your shoulders. You don't want to forget to follow up with a recruiter, or forget to send out an application. And since most students and grads almost always have a device at their fingertips, apps and programs are a great way to stay on top of your job hunt. Here are a few strategies.

Spreadsheet programs

Spreadsheet programs like Microsoft Office Excel, Apple Numbers, and Google Drive Sheets are an easy way to stay organized. For every potential job, make columns for the following:

- Date you saw the ad
- Company name
- Job title
- Duties (alternatively, ad URL)
- Application closing date
- Required materials
- Date application submitted
- Status of application

Consider having different spreadsheets for different kinds of jobs. For example, if you're looking into administrative and social media jobs, it can be more convenient to divide the jobs by this category.

To-do list programs

If you are not a fan of spreadsheets, consider to-do lists. There are a wealth of choices out there, and many of them are cross-platform and available as mobile apps. Some examples are Trello, Wunderlist, and Any.Do.

The great thing about these programs is the ability to create different lists: you can have a checklist for each job you're applying to. Include the job title, company name, and the application deadline.

For each job:

- Research the position
- Revise resumé
- Write cover letter
- Send resumé and cover letter
- Prepare for interview
- Attend interview on (date) at (location)
- Send post-interview thank-you note

Some of these are larger tasks than others, so if necessary, split them up as separate points in the to-do list.

For example, preparing for an interview is a complex task. This may involve choosing an outfit, researching the company and your interviewer(s), and making sure you know your way to the interview location.

The advantage of to-do lists is that you have a clear list of tasks and each time you check something off, you get a sense of satisfaction.

Web clipping and read-later programs

Bookmarking a web page is not the same as saving it. This can be done with a web-clipping program like Evernote Web Clipper or a read-later program like Pocket and DotDotDot. The purpose of these programs is to save and archive job advertisements.

Once you have job advertisements saved, it will be useful to organize them into different folders.

Your system can be organized by job type, which can refer to the industry or whether the job is short-term contractual or potentially long-term.

If possible, annotate your archived clippings. These notes to yourself can be a great line for the cover letter or a reminder to talk to someone you know who works in the company.

Keeping notes together with the advertisement ensures you won't forget something that will help you succeed in finding that dream job. JINGWEI CHEN/TALENTEGG.CA/FOR METRO



Breakfast or dessert.
Carrot Cake Waffles



This recipe makes four large waffles. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1. To make the syrup, in a small saucepan over medium-high, combine the brown sugar, water, raisins and both the fresh grated and dry ground gingers. Bring to a simmer, stirring to combine, and heat until the sugar has dissolved. Remove the pan from the heat and set aside to steep.

2. Heat a waffle iron to medium-high. Heat the oven to 250 F.

3. In a medium bowl, whisk together the eggs, brown sugar, oil, pineapple, walnuts, carrot, buttermilk and vanilla. In a small bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Gently stir the dry ingredients into the liquid ingredients just until combined.

4. Spray the waffle iron with cooking spray and add 2/3 cup of batter, or an appropriate amount for your waffle iron. Cook as directed for your waffle iron, or until golden brown. Keep warm on a baking sheet in the oven while you cook the remaining waffles. Serve with butter, if desired, and the warm syrup. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

For the ginger-raisin syrup
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/3 cup golden raisins
- 2 tbsp grated fresh ginger
- 1 tsp dry ground ginger

For the waffles
- 2 eggs
- 2 tbsp packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 8-oz can crushed pineapple (not drained)
- 1/2 cup toasted, chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup packed grated carrot
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp table salt
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- Butter, optional

Spices add extra zip to soup

Dinner. This carrot and bean combination features a dash of curry and other flavours for added taste



DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
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Getting vegetables into your diet can be tricky if you're on the go all day. But if you take a few simple ingredients that you may have in your pantry and put them together, you will be on your way to creating healthy and tasty dinners.

Try to keep veggie staples like onions, carrots, celery and potatoes on hand for more than side dishes or salads. Create meals with them as the flavour starters and stars of the recipes.

Ingredients
- 2 tsp (10 ml) canola oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced fresh ginger
- 5 large carrots, peeled and chopped (about 1 1/4 lb/575 g)
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 potato, peeled and chopped
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) tomato paste
- 2 tsp (10 ml) curry powder or paste
- 3 cups (750 ml) sodium-reduced vegetable broth
- 2 cups (500 ml) water
- 1 can (14 oz/398 ml) navy beans, drained and rinsed
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) chopped fresh cilantro
- Hot pepper sauce (optional)



This Curry Carrot and Bean Soup recipe makes 7 1/2 cups (1.875 L) of soup. EMILY RICHARDS

Simple savoury spices that pack a punch, like curry or dried herb mixes, will work to give your dinners big hits of flavour.

Lastly, stock up on canned beans when they're on sale because they are perfect in salads or soups.

This zippy carrot-bean soup is perfect to make ahead and freeze for lunches or enjoy for dinner with your favourite whole grain crackers.

Directions

1. In a soup pot, heat oil over medium heat and cook onion, garlic and ginger for 3 minutes or until softened. Stir in carrots, celery, potato, tomato paste and curry powder.

2. Pour in broth and water; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for about 45 minutes or until carrots are very tender.

3. Using an immersion blender or ladle into blender, purée soup in batches until smooth. Stir in beans and cilantro and heat through. Serve in deep bowls and drizzle with hot sauce, if desired.

With olive oil, you get what you pay for

With a poor harvest of olives in traditional high-producing countries like Spain and Italy pushing global production to a 15-year low and driving up the price of olive oil, it's more important than ever for consumers to be wary of what they buy.

While Greece, the third-largest producer in the world, had a superb harvest last year, Spain and Italy were hit by frost. Then moisture and humidity in the summer, when the trees prefer arid conditions, gave rise to the olive oil fly, a pest that burrows into the fruit.

"A lot of Italian producers didn't even press," says chef Christine Cushing, who has been producing olive oil from trees grown in a remote area of Greece for a decade. "They left olives to rot. It was that bad."

And civil war in Syria, another large producer, has affected that country's output.

Although the industry is regulated, the rules are often broken and it's becoming more challenging to catch offenders. People have to learn for themselves what a great olive oil tastes like, as well as the characteristics of a bad olive oil, Cushing says. Here are some tips:

- In scanning store shelves, if you see a litre of olive oil labelled extra virgin for $3.99, pass it by.

"I don't care if it says 'the holy father's extra-virgin olive oil,' it's a lie. It cannot be," says Cushing. "Good olive oil has never been cheap, just because of the way it's produced."

- The worst enemies of olive oil are heat, light and air, so look for oil in a dark bottle with a best-before and/or harvest date. A good-quality olive oil will be sealed.
- You could also check for a sticker indicating PDO, or Protective Designation of Origin, a European Union assurance of quality.
- As with wine, olive oils have different characteristics and aromas — fruit, pepper, tomatoes, almonds — depending on the cultivars and terroir. Some stores have tasting bars where you can sample the oil.
- Buy what you think you're going to use. Use it up and buy it again so you can have it at its best, says Cushing,

"Don't save it for good. Everybody's worth a great olive oil." THE CANADIAN PRESS



The average Canadian consumes 1.5 litres of olive oil a year. ISTOCK

Rainmen thoughts turn to sellouts after offing Miracles

NBL playoffs. Coach demands fan support after advancing to Atlantic Division finals


KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
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For Halifax Rainmen head coach Josep (Pep) Claros, everyone plays an important role on the court — including the fans.

The Halifax Rainmen washed away the Moncton Miracles in National Basketball League of Canada playoff action Tuesday. They won by almost 30 points, with a 112-83 final score on the board at Moncton Coliseum, to claim the first round in four games and advance to Atlantic Division finals.

The Rainmen will play whichever team wins Thursday night when the Island Storm host the Saint John Mill Rats for the fifth and final game of their playoff series.

Halifax hosts the first game of the second round on March 19 at the Scotiabank Centre.

"My next goal is the 19th of March — I need to see a lot of crowd," Claros said following Tuesday night's big win. "It's not just us playing; Halifax is playing … Nova Scotia is playing."

"We are already in the last four, so we have an opportunity to be champions, (but) we need them," he said of fans, both new and old alike.

"It's going to be very important for us to make the crowd understand that they are very, very important for our players and our team right now, so I want them there."

Quoted

"I'm very happy for the fans, for the players, for the organization. We're going to be in the last four, so we (will) continue believing in our dream, which is to be champion of NBL."

Rainmen head coach Josep "Pep" Claros

For Claros, it's also important that each and every player on his team knows their role on the floor or bench is just as important as any other.

On Tuesday night, Rainmen forward Kevin Young was once again tops in points, putting up 23 in total, while also pulling down nine rebounds and throwing four assists.

Forward Tyrone Watson scored 14 points after sitting and centre Liam McMorrow contributed a double-double, with 14 points of his own and 17 rebounds total.

But Claros is careful not to talk stats of individual players on his Halifax squad.

"Especially when the team effort is so high, and every game," he said, adding it's "more important how everybody is helping … in different ways."

Including, of course, Rainmen fans.

"I don't want three or four thousand or 5,000," Claros said of crowds he expects to show up at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax.

"I want 7,000 every night."



Point guard Seiya Ando and the Halifax Rainmen washed out the Moncton Miracles 112-83 on the road Tuesday night to advance to Atlantic Division finals in NBL Canada action. TANYA EVERETT/MONCTON MIRACLES

Ehlers named CHL best of week — again

The dashing Dane has done it again.

Halifax Mooseheads import forward Nikolaj Ehlers was named Canadian Hockey League player of the week Tuesday, earning national accolades for the second time this season.

The 19-year-old from Aalborg, Denmark, accomplished the honour this time by notching five goals and seven assists for 12 points, along with a plus-8 rating, in three games played during the week of March 2-8. He was last named CHL player of the week Nov. 24-30.

Ehlers had a hand in 75 per cent of the Herd's goals in those games. They earned a 7-4 win over the Acadie-Bathurst Titan at home last Wednesday, then suffered two road losses — 6-5 to the Charlottetown Islanders on Friday night and 5-4 to the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles on Sunday afternoon. Ehlers racked up his fifth hat trick of the season against Cape Breton.

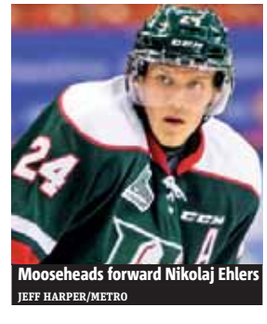
Up next

Ehlers and the rest of the Mooseheads are back in action this weekend, with road games against the Titan and Saint John Sea Dogs on Friday and Saturday night, respectively.

He was named first star of the game last Wednesday, with a goal and four assists, was named second star Friday, with a goal and two helpers, and got second star again Sunday, tallying his fourth hat trick of the season and adding an assist for four points on the game.

Ehlers was selected ninth overall by the Winnipeg Jets in the 2014 NHL draft. He currently leads the Herd in scoring, and ranks fourth overall in the Q-league, with 35 goals and 59 assists for 94 points in 46 games total.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO



Mooseheads forward Nikolaj Ehlers
JEFF HARPER/METRO

4 SPORTS

NHL. Canadiens fall to overtime Lightning strike

Tyler Johnson scored 1:03 into overtime as the Tampa Bay Lightning defeated the Montreal Canadiens 1-0 in a battle between NHL Eastern Conference leaders on Tuesday night.

Johnson took his own rebound and saw the puck go in off defenceman Tom Gilbert's skate. The Lighting (42-20-6) won a fourth straight game and are now one point behind conference-leading Montreal (42-18-7). The 21,287 Bell Centre fans were treated to hockey at a frantic pace, but no goals through three periods of play between two of the Eastern Conference's fastest teams.

The Lightning had a 35-19 shot advantage, including 10-2 in the third period.

There were chances at both ends, with Montreal's Carey Price and Tampa Bay's Ben Bishop letting nothing slip through. Late in the second, the Canadiens had a glittering chance on a two-on-one break but Bishop stopped Max Pacioretty and then Jacob de la Rose on the rebound. It was the third meeting of the season between the clubs, with the Lightning winning the first two by a combined 11-3.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Tampa's Alex Killorn body checks Canadiens' Jeff Petry GETTY IMAGES



Golden girl Humphries captures Marsh award memory

Canadian gold medal-winning bobsledder Kaillie Humphries takes a selfie with the Lou Marsh Award trophy after it was presented to her by Toronto Star publisher John Cruickshank on Tuesday in Toronto. The Calgarian Humphries was named Canada's top athlete for 2014 in December after successfully defending her two-woman bobsled gold at last year's Sochi Olympics. TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NFL

Late Revis deal to Jets steals show

Until the New York Jets landed Darrelle Revis, the first hours of NFL free agency Tuesday looked more like fantasy football.

Trades, anyone? Monster deals sending Jimmy Graham to Seattle and Sam Bradford to Philadelphia stole the spotlight from free agent signings. That is until mid-evening, when Revis Island returned to the Meadowlands.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

New York Cosmos to take on Cuba

The New York Cosmos will face off against Cuba's national team in June, an official said Tuesday, making it the first professional U.S. soccer club to play on the island in 37 years.

The match comes after Washington and Havana announced Dec. 17 that they would negotiate the restoration of diplomatic relations that were severed shortly after the 1959 Cuban Revolution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Court. Valet saw likely gun in Hernandez's waistband

A valet manager at a Boston hotel testified Tuesday at Aaron Hernandez's murder trial that the then-New England Patriots star tight end had what he believed to be a gun stuffed in his waistband two nights before the killing of Odin Lloyd.

Samson Michael testified that he was an account manager for the valet service at the W Hotel in Boston in June 2013.

He said he saw Hernandez outside the hotel at 1:30 am. on June 15, two days before Lloyd was shot dead at an industrial park near Hernandez's home. Lloyd had been dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée. Lloyd was with Hernandez and another man that night, according to testimony Monday by a woman who babysat for Hernandez's daughter and ran into him at the W Hotel.

Quoted

"I noticed a gentleman with his shirt up to his chest and what looks to be a gun in his waistband."

Witness Samson Michael

"I just noticed a gentleman with his shirt up to his chest and what looks to be a gun inside his waistband," Michael told jurors.

Asked to describe it by prosecutor William McCauley, Michael said it was a "black object, what looks like a gun. I could see about half of it. Mostly the handle." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't bow to fame or money; be Smart

CIS men's basketball. With a great record, a No. 1 ranked team and a true loyalty to his players, we could all learn from Carleton's charismatic coach

Integrity



"No matter how much money I got offered, I'd still have to go to the team room and tell 12 athletes that I recruited, who have worked so hard for me ... I'd have to tell them I'm leaving. I'm not sure I'm capable of doing that."

Carleton Ravens coach Dave Smart

He's the star basketball coach who led Carleton University to multiple national championships — but Dave Smart hates everything that comes with winning.

Smart became the Carleton Ravens' head coach back in 1999. He's since led his team to 10 national titles in 12 years — including five straight starting in 2003 — and has been Canadian Interuniversity Sport coach of the year seven times.

"I hate the media attention ... I hate that more people may know who I am," Smart told Torstar News Service Tuesday by phone from a bus en route to Toronto. "If we could win with no one knowing who I was and no one talking to me after, it would be perfect."

For the coach, whose team is seeded No. 1 heading into the CIS men's basketball championship at Ryerson University (which starts Thursday) it's not the allure of another shiny trophy that keeps him dedicated and passionate, it's his players.

It's the same reason why he has turned down significant offers from schools in the United States, he says.

"No matter how much money I got offered, I'd still have to go to the team room and tell 12 athletes that I recruited, who have worked so hard for me ... I'd have to tell them I'm leaving," said Smart. "I'm not sure I'm capable of doing that."

Other winning coaches have made the move, including Smart's friend. The former Lakehead University basketball coach left the school in 2013 and later secured the head coaching job with the Maine Red Claws.

Smart, 49, says his circumstances are different. He's settled in Ottawa with his wife and two kids, three-year-old Gabriel and five-year-old Theo.

While he once told a reporter he'd only accept a U.S. job for a salary of $500,000 — which he now laughs off as a joke — his hard bargaining hasn't silenced the talk. Smart tells inquisitive NCAA schools "the same thing I'm telling you," he told Torstar News Service.

Smart did accept a coaching offer from an NCAA school once, but then changed his mind after realizing he couldn't break the bad news to his players, he said.

"Dave's an unbelievable basketball coach and he holds us to higher standards every day. Not just in terms of basketball, but in terms of how you act as a person," said player Victor Raso, 24. "The lessons are beyond basketball."

In the near future, Smart would like to see Canadian schools make some changes. Full athletic scholarships might keep talented players at home while still offering a good education and basketball training, he said, adding he'd never begrudge the likes of Toronto's Andrew Wiggins for leaving for better NBA exposure.

As for how he expects the upcoming tournament to go, Smart's answer is characteristically honest.

"I just want to play well," he said. "I think we can play well and lose."

DRIVE

2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee

- **Type.** Four-door, five-passenger midsize SUV
- **Engines (hp).** 3.6-litre V6 (290), 5.7-litre V8 (360) 3.0-L V6 Diesel (240), 6.4-litre V8 (475)
- **Transmissions.** Eight-speed automatic
- **Price.** Base $40,495, as-tested $68,580 (excluding destination)

Market position

By putting the diesel into just the high-end trims, Jeep hopes to take on German brands such as Mercedes-Benz and BMW. This SUV does everything the competitors' vehicles do, but may face an uphill battle with buyers who prefer those traditional top-shelf nameplates.

Points

- The Grand Cherokee comes in five trim lines and choice of four engines, including a 475-hp V8 in the performance SRT model.
- The Overland name comes from Willys-Overland, one of the Jeep manufacturers during the Second World War.
- The diesel version can tow up to 3,265 kg (7,200 lbs.) and go up to 1,100 km on a tank of fuel.



Everything from a heated steering wheel to rear seat entertainment is available for the Jeep Grand Cherokee.

Interesting features

Standard 4x4, capless fuel fill, trailer sway control, and dual-zone climate control; available heated steering wheel, air suspension, dual sunroof, adaptive cruise control, rear-seat entertainment system.

Jeep's take on the premium SUV



PHOTOS: JIL MCINTOSH

Review. The 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel holds up with top of the line features

JIL MCINTOSH
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Diesel has long been popular in Europe for luxury vehicles, but while it's still relatively rare in cars here, it's showing up more and more on premium SUVs, including the Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel.

These engines are all about torque (in the Grand Cherokee's case, 420 lb.-ft.) delivered almost right at the start for strong acceleration and solid mid-range power. They also offer relatively good fuel economy and long range with fewer fill-ups, although most are pricier than their gasoline siblings, as is their fuel these days as well.

The Grand Cherokee starts at $40,495 for a V6 gas engine, for example, and you can also get a gas V8. But in an effort to compete with the premium diesel-powered brands, Jeep is only offering the diesel in the top-line Overland and Summit models, where the engine option adds as much as $7,145 to the price. And while my Overland tester was already luxuriously equipped with such standard features as heated and ventilated leather seats, suede-style headliner, navigation system, and heated power-adjustable steering wheel, it also had add-on options including a rear-seat Blu-Ray entertainment system and such electronic safety features as adaptive cruise control and collision warning, which brought it to $68,580.



Diesel engines can offer decent fuel economy and a whole lot of torque.

That's a lot of cash, but the company has learned a lot about interiors over the last few years, and I'd put this up against any of its premium-brand competitors. The materials are top-notch, it's all extremely comfortable, and almost everything's easy to use. The one misstep is an electronic shifter for the eight-speed automatic that's far too fiddly. This would be a great place for Chrysler's dial-style shifter unit.

An air suspension lowers for easy access or rises for off-road, and you can select optimal settings to handle snow, sand, or rock, along with four-wheel low gearing. The ultimate irony is that few will actually take such a pricey truck into the tough stuff, but especially with this engine and its low-end power, owners will at least know they can.

Compare



1 Volkswagen Touareg Diesel
Base price: $53,975
VW remains among the diesel leaders, and the Touareg's version is smooth and great to drive.



2 BMW X5 xDrive35d
Base price: $67,000
Available three-row seating makes this diesel a premium alternative for larger families.



3 Porsche Cayenne Diesel
Base price: $71,300
Porsche's largest SUV remains its best-selling model among all the company's vehicles.

World Car of the Year finalists announced

New York. Mustang, C Class and Passat all in the running for automotive honour

The Ford Mustang, the Mercedes-Benz C Class and the Volkswagen Passat will compete in April for one of the automotive world's most prestigious awards, World Car of the Year. The ultimate winner, scheduled to be revealed at a special gala ceremony on the eve of the New York International Auto Show on April 2, will be decided by a panel of 75 of the world's leading automotive journalists, via a secret ballot.

Of the three finalists, the new Volkswagen Passat has made the list due to winning the European Car of the Year Award, which itself was announced on the eve of the Geneva Motor Show, on Monday.

As well as the overall winner, the World Car of the Year ceremony also recognizes excellence in other classes and awards will also be given for the Luxury Car of the Year, Performance Car of the Year and Green Car of the Year.

In 2014, the Audi A3 scooped the ultimate prize while the Porsche 911 GT3 and Mercedes Benz S Class grabbed the awards for performance car and luxury car respectively.

This year the BMW M4/M3, Jaguar F-Type R Coupe and the Mercedes-Benz AMG GT will be competing on performance while the BMW i8, Mercedes Benz S Class Coupe and Range Rover Autobiography Black LWB will be competing in the luxury car category. AFP



The Volkswagen Passat has already won the European Car of the Year. VOLKSWAGEN



Geneva Motor Show. Ford delivers the cutting edge

One of the busiest stands at this year's Geneva Motor Show is Ford's, the centerpiece of which is the new Ford GT supercar. But the company has something to offer to meet every driver's needs.

Like the original 1960s GT40, the new GT — making its European debut — was built to beat Ferrari, and as a showcase for the company's capabilities. It uses an environmentally responsible 3.5-liter v6 engine yet, thanks to turbocharging, produces over 600bhp. Built almost entirely from carbon fiber and aluminum, when it goes on sale for €340,000 (roughly $548,742) in 2016, production will be limited to 250 examples a year globally.

"The GT is the ultimate execution of an enthusiast super car," said Raj Nair, Ford group vice president. But while the GT is out of reach for most enthusiasts, the new Focus RS, which made its global debut this week, at roughly one tenth of the price, isn't. Potentially the hottest hatch in the company's history, it comes with over 300bhp and four-wheel drive and even has a special drift button for cornering like a rally star. And yet, the car is practical enough for the school run. It's the shape of things to come for the company.

Quoted

"It's our mission to make performance accessible to as many people as possible."

Jim Farley, Ford Motor Company executive vice president

"It's our mission to make performance accessible to as many people as possible," said Jim Farley, Ford Motor Company executive vice president and president Europe, Middle East and Africa.

By 2020, Ford plans to have revealed 12 new performance cars for all budgets. "This promises to be a vintage era for driving enthusiast," he said.

This year's Geneva show is awash with supercars and hot hatchbacks but there is also a strong focus on luxury and SUV and crossover models, making Ford's stand a microcosm of current global car trends.

The company unveiled a new flagship SUV, the Edge, based on the Mondeo platform and offering what Ford claims is class-leading amounts of interior space. The model brings Ford's European crossover range up to three, the smallest of which, the EcoSport has also been given a facelift for 2015. AFP



The Ford GT was built to beat Ferrari. THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY

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KROM MT model shown▲

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1.8 SL model shown▲

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3.5 SL model shown▲

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SL AWD Premium model shown▲

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***Equivalent lease payments of $29/$38/$55/$60 on the 2015 Micra/2015 Sentra/2015 Altima Sedan/2015 Rogue must be made on a semi-monthly basis and cannot be made weekly. Weekly lease payments are for advertising purposes only.** †The $750/$1,000/$1,000 additional discount offer is valid on the purchase financing or lease (at inception) of select new 2015 Sentra/2015 Altima Sedan/2015 Rogue. $750/$1,000/$1,000 is comprised of $500/$750/$750 NCF cash and $250/$250/$250 dealer participation. Offer valid March 11-31, 2015. Offer is based on stackable trading dollars. Offer is available to eligible customers for a limited time on approved credit only. The discount will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Applicable to Nissan Canada Finance (NCF) contracts only through subvented NCF finance, lease or NCF standard finance rates. Not combinable with fleet discounts and not applicable to cash purchase buyers. Offer not eligible for program protection. Certain conditions apply. *Based on full-line brands (those selling both cars and trucks) on a rolling 12 month year over year retail sales volume basis. ‡Offer is administered by Nissan Canada Extended Services Inc. (NCESI) and applies to any new 2015 Micra/Versa Note/Sentra/Altima/Juke/Rogue/Pathfinder models (each, an "Eligible Model") leased and registered through Nissan Canada Financial Services Inc., on approved credit, between March 3 – March 31, 2015 from an authorized Nissan retailer in Canada. Eligible only on leases through NCF with subvented rates. Offer recipient will be entitled to receive a maximum of six (6) service visits (each, a "Service Visit") for the Eligible Vehicle – where each Service Visit consists of one (1) oil change (using conventional 5W30 motor oil) and one (1) tire rotation service (each, an "Eligible Service"). All Eligible Services will be conducted in strict accordance with the Oil Change and Tire Rotation Plan outline in the Agreement Booklet for the Eligible Vehicle. The service period ("Service Period") will commence on the lease transaction date ("Transaction Date") and will expire on the earlier of: (i) the date on which the maximum number of Service Visits has been reached; (ii) 36 months from the Transaction Date; or (iii) when the Eligible Vehicle has reached 48,000 kilometers. All Eligible Services must be completed during the Service Period, otherwise they will be forfeited. There is no cash alternative value. Offer may not be extended to a commercial fleet user. Offer is subject to change without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See your retailer for complete details. ≠Representative semi-monthly lease offer based on any new 2015 Micra S 5MT (S5LG65 AA00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 S Manual Transmition (C4LG55 AA00)/2015 Altima 2.5 CVT Transmission (T4LG15 AA00)/2015 Rogue S FWD CVT transmission (Y6RG15 AA00). 4.99%/0.9%/0%/1.99% lease APR for a 60/60/60/60 month term equals 120/120/120/120 semi-monthly payments of $64/$82/$118/$129 with $998/$0/$0/$0 down payment, and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices and payments include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $8,621/$9,900/$14,177/$15,491. $250/$30 Dealer participation included only on the 2015 Micra S 5MT (S5LG65 AA00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 S M6 (C4LG55 AA00) included in advertised amount. $500 NCF lease cash included on advertised offers, only applicable on 2015 Altima 2.5 CVT Transmission (T4LG15 AA00). These offers are only valid from March 3 - 31, 2015. $750/$1,000/$1,000 Cash Bonus included in advertised amounts. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Conditions apply. ♦Models shown $16,217/$25,765/$35,543/$36,348. Selling price for a new 2015 Micra® KROM MT (S5RG55 KR00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 SL (C4TG15 AA00)/2015 Altima 3.5 SL CVT (T4SG15 NV00)/2015 Rogue SL AWD Premium (Y6DG15 BK00). $750/$1,00/$1,000 Cash Bonus not included in model shown. ♦♦♦Freight and PDE charges ($1,450/$1,567/$1,695/$1,750) air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, applicable fees (all which may vary by region), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. Offers valid between March 3 - 31, 2015. ^Based on GAC (AIAMC) Intermediate segmentation. All information compiled from Natural Resources Canada Fuel Economy data and third-party sources, including manufacturer websites. November 26, 2014. ∞Based on 2014/15 Nissan Sentra (3,144L), 2015 Honda Civic (3,031L) and 2015 Toyota Corolla (3,118L). All information sourced from Natural Resources Canada's Fuel Consumption Guide and combined fuel consumption ratings. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on road conditions, driving habits and other factors. ±$1,000 Bonus is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. Offers have no cash alternative value. 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The Lexus LF-SA combines a luxury vehicle with advanced infotainment technology. HANDOUT

Automakers bank on driver desire for comfort and style

Autopilot. At the Geneva Motor Show, beauty and technology shared the spotlight


AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The automotive industry is always interesting, but lately it's *more* interesting.

In fact, judging by what was on display at last week's show in Geneva, the industry is on fire.

On fire in a good way, of course, and maybe because the industry has to respond to a multitude of cultural and technical trends, and nothing stimulates creativity and performance like a challenge.

Some of the culture and technical challenges include self-driving vehicles, electric and fuel-cell propulsion, super-connected vehicles and infotainment systems, more urban living, having to compete globally in markets that were not historically predisposed to your brand's particular strengths, and, increasingly so, the spectre of the world's largest and most aggressive and technological-orientated companies — Google and Apple — considering respective moves onto the auto industry turf.

So much of the cool stuff that debuted at Geneva this year embraces some or all of those challenges.

Here are three concepts worthy of your perusal, because they did it with such aplomb.

All three are quite different but they look equally amazing, which bodes well for all of us who view cars as more than just transportation.

Quoted

"Judging by what was on display at last week's show in Geneva, the industry is on fire."

Mike Goetz

In the future, we may be chauffeured in conveyances fuelled by antimatter and electronically leashed to some sort of highway network, but that doesn't mean they have to look like crap.

The drive to look good seems pretty much entrenched.

Volkswagen Sport Coupe GTE

Sport Coupe GTE is a vision of a vehicle VW is contemplating to position above the current CC coupe, as one the brand's more premium offerings. It looks like a coupe, but has four doors and a tailgate. The GTE signifies "plug-in hybrid" in VW vernacular. VW said it has a top speed of 155 mph and returns 118 mpg. When drivers wear smart watches or the connected armband, the vehicle can select a route — exciting or gentle — to match your biometric data.

Lexus LF-SA Concept

The LF-SA is a vision of what Lexus might consider for customers who need a small, urban vehicle, but who still view driving as a luxury experience, and one they are unprepared to forgo.

The tiny vehicle can seat four in a pinch, but the driver cockpit gets overwhelming priority.

The driver's seat is fixed, with adjustable steering wheel and pedals, bringing the vehicle to the driver. The front passenger seat, however, slides, allowing access to the rear.

The infotainment system includes a hologram-style digital display.

Bentley EXP 10 Speed 6

According to Bentley, the EXP 10 Speed 6 is not just a new sports car concept.

It could be a future new model, and its styling — described as "lean, toned and precise" — could also influence future Bentley models.

The precision comes from 3D styling details, such as the iconic Bentley mesh grille, which is no longer flat on the EXP, but includes latticework of varying depths, only visible when viewed at an angle.



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Wise customers read the fine print: ◊, ◊, †, ‡, ~, ≈, §The Ram Truck offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected in-stock new and unused models purchased/leased from participating retailers on or after March 3, 2015. Offers subject to change and may be extended or changed without notice. All pricing excludes freight ($1,695), air-conditioning charge, licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Financing and lease offers available to qualified customers on approved credit. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◊Finance Pull-Ahead Bonus Cash and 1% Rate Reduction are available to eligible customers on the retail purchase/lease of select 2015 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram or FIAT models at participating retailers from March 3-31, 2015, inclusive. Pull-Ahead Bonus Cash will be deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. Excludes 2015 Chrysler 200, 2015 Dodge Journey, CVP/SE, 2015 Dodge Grand Caravan CVP, 2015 Dodge Dart, 2015 Dodge Challenger/Charger SRT Hellcat, 2015 Jeep Wrangler Sport (JK/JL72), 2015 Jeep Compass (select models), 2015 Jeep Patriot, 2015 Cherokee (Sport 4x2), 2015 Jeep Renegade, 2015 Ram Cargo Van (C/V), 2015 Ram ProMaster City, 2015 Ram 1500 (Reg Cab 4x2 & 4x4), 2015 FIAT 500 Pop/500L Pop. 1% Rate Reduction applies on approved credit to qualifying subvented financing transactions through RBC. TD Auto Finance & Scotiabank and cannot be used to reduce the initial interest rate below 0%. Eligible customers include all original and current owners of a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram or FIAT model with an eligible standard/subvented finance or lease contract maturing between September 1, 2014 and December 31, 2018. Trade-in not required. See retailers for complete details. ◊◊$10,000 in Total Discounts is available on new 2015 Ram 1500 models (excluding Reg Cab) and consists of $8,500 in Consumer Cash Discounts and $1,500 in Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest Bonus Cash. See your retailer for complete details. †3.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on select new 2015 models through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Examples: 2015 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SXT 4x4 (25A+A6R+XFH)/2015 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (25A+A6R) with a Purchase Price of $29,449/$25,995 with a $0 down payment, financed at 3.49% for 96 months equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $162/$143 with a cost of borrowing of $4,345/$3,835 and a total obligation of $33,793.66/$29,830.09. ‡Consumer Cash Discounts are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. ≈$1,500 Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest/Skilled Trades Bonus Cash is available on the retail purchase/lease of 2014/2015 Ram 1500 (excludes Regular Cab), 2014 Ram 2500/3500, 2014 Ram ProMaster or 2014 Ram Cargo Van and is deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. Eligible customers include: 1. Current owners/lessees of a Dodge or Ram Pickup Truck or Large Van or any other manufacturer's Pickup Truck or Large Van. The vehicle must have been owned/leased by the eligible customer and registered in their name on or before March 1, 2015. Proof of ownership/lease agreement will be required. 2. Customers who are skilled tradesmen or are acquiring a skilled trade. This includes Licensed Tradesmen, Certified Journeymen or customers who have completed an Apprenticeship Certification. A copy of the Trade Licence/Certification required. 3. Customers who are Bauer Inter Approved service providers. Proof of membership is required. Limit one $1,500 bonus cash offer per eligible truck transaction. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. ~Non-prime financing available on approved credit. Financing example: 2015 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 with a Purchase Price of $25,995 financed at 4.99% over 84 months, equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $170 for a total finance obligation of $30,852.26. §Starting From Prices for vehicles shown include Consumer Cash Discounts and do not include upgrades (e.g., paint). Upgrades available for additional cost. ••Based on *Automotive News* Full-Size Pickup segmentation. 2015 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption ratings. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 11.3L/100 km (25 MPG) city and 8.0 L/100 km (35 MPG) highway on Ram 1500 Quad Cab 4x2 HFE model with 3.0L EcoDiesel V6 and 8-speed automatic. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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GT model shown





GT models shown

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▼Based on total Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC) Category wins (various) up to the 2014 model year. ♦Signing Bonuses are available on retail cash purchase/finance/lease of select new, in-stock 2014/2015/2016 Mazda models from March 3 – 31, 2015. Bonus amounts vary by model. $500 Signing Bonus applies to all 2014 Mazda2, all 2014/2015 Mazda3, all 2014/2015 Mazda5, and all 2015/2016 Mazda6 models. $750 Signing Bonus applies to all 2015/2016 CX-5 models. Maximum $1,000 Signing Bonus only available on all 2015 CX-9 and all 2014/2015 MX-5 models. Signing Bonus will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. See dealer for complete details. *To learn more about the Mazda Unlimited Warranty, go to mazdaunlimited.ca. †0% APR Purchase Financing is available on select new 2015 and 2016 Mazda models. Terms vary by model. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $16,690 (includes $500 Signing Bonus) for the new 2015 Mazda3 GX (D4XK65AA00) with a financed amount of $18,000, the cost of borrowing for a 36-month term is $0, monthly payment is $500, total finance obligation is $18,000. Offer includes freight, P.D.E. and fees. Offer excludes PST/GST/HST. ‡Offer available on retail leases of new 2015 Mazda3 GX (D4XK65AA00)/2016 Mazda6 GX (G4XL66AA00)/2016 CX-5 GX (NVXK66AA00) with a lease APR of 2.99%/2.99%/3.49% and 130/130/130 bi-weekly payments of $87/$147/$138 for 60/60/60 months, the total lease obligation is $11,306/$19,088/$17,919, including down payment of $0/$0/$0. As shown, Offered Pricing for new 2015 Mazda3 GT (D4TL65AA00)/2016 Mazda6 GT (G4TL66AA00)/2016 CX-5 GT (NXTL86AA00) with a lease APR of 2.99%/2.99%/3.49% and 130/130/130 bi-weekly payments of $150/$195/$201 for 60/60/60 months, the total lease obligation is $19,503/$25,415/$26,078, including down payment of $0/$0/$0. Lease payments include freight and P.D.E. of $1,695/$1,695/$1,895. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies. Offers exclude PST/GST/HST. Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Licence, insurance, dealer administration and other fees, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid March 3 – 31, 2015, while supplies last. Lease and finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your dealer for complete details.

Shift: From hybrids, technology, new vehicles and the environment, to saving money at the pumps

EV interest grows through cul-de-sac effect

Nissan CEO Carlos Ghosn notes in a post on LinkedIn that the Renault-Nissan Alliance recently sold its 200,000th zero-emissions car, a Nissan Leaf. Launched four years ago, the Leaf is "by far" the top-selling electric vehicle worldwide, he wrote, with sales up 20 per cent this year. In an article titled Zero-Emission Cars: Both Consumers and the Environment Win, Ghosn lists several reasons why electric-vehicle sales are expected to only get healthier. They are: convenient, economical, fun, reliable, and their buyers tend to become almost evangelical about their vehicle's virtues. The first Leaf owners in a neighbourhood share their enthusiasm with neighbours, friends and family, said Ghosn, "(and) sales grow as more people see and experience the benefits first-hand."

ALL STORIES AND PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Nissan boss Carlos Ghosn says that the Leaf's increasing popularity is partially due to owners who like to tell other people about the electric vehicle.





With a range of 320 kilometres, the Bolt will be sold in all 50 U.S. states as well as Canada.

Bolt might get a new name, will be sold all over North America

General Motors has officially confirmed a Reuters news agency report that it will build and sell the Chevrolet Bolt electric car, with production expected to begin late next year, and sales soon after. GM North America president Alan Batey confirmed at the Chicago Auto Show in mid-February that the Bolt would be built at the Orion Assembly Plant, 50 kilometres north of Detroit, Mich. First shown in January at the Detroit Auto Show, the Bolt is a battery electric hatchback with a 320-kilometre range. GM CEO Mary Barra pegged its price at $37,500 US, before incentives. The production version of the Bolt Concept — a name change could be in the offing — will be offered in all 50 states and Canada.

Shift points

- Toyota will triple production of its new Mirai fuel-cell sedan next year, sparked by an unexpected glut of orders. It will increase production to 2,000 units next year — almost triple the 700 Mirais slated for this year — and increase to 3,000 in 2017.
- While sales of plug-in vehicles are up for 2014 by almost 30 per cent, California boasts the highest rate of electric vehicles purchased, with five in every 1,000 vehicles sold there using an outlet to charge batteries, says a U.S. Energy Information Administration report.
- Kansas City, Mo., has set its sights on establishing an electric-car infrastructure in 2015, working with a local utility company to build a network of charge sites throughout the area. Kansas City Power and Light will install more than 1,000 of the charging sites.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
No matter how busy you are, find an outlet for your physical desires. Mars, your ruler, is so strong today that mental challenges won't be enough.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
There is someone you want to know better but can't think of an approach. What happens today will throw you together and before you know it you will be more than just friends.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Make sure your ambitions are not too outrageous because if they are you may fall short of what you expect of yourself and your confidence will suffer.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Your mind is a powerful tool and if you think positive thoughts today and for the rest of the week there is no doubt that positive things will occur.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Someone who is as different to you as chalk is to cheese will make a big impression on you today, big enough perhaps to change your assumptions about certain kinds of people.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Others will respond to you extremely well today — it's as if they are making a special effort to be nice to you. Take advantage of the situation by telling them what it is you need.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A relationship that has been going through a rocky phase needs to be dealt with once and for all. Cosmic activity in your opposite sign of Aries suggests it may be better to call it a day.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Don't let people's criticisms make you feel guilty because the planets indicate you've done nothing wrong. The reason they are having a go at you is because they envy your abilities.

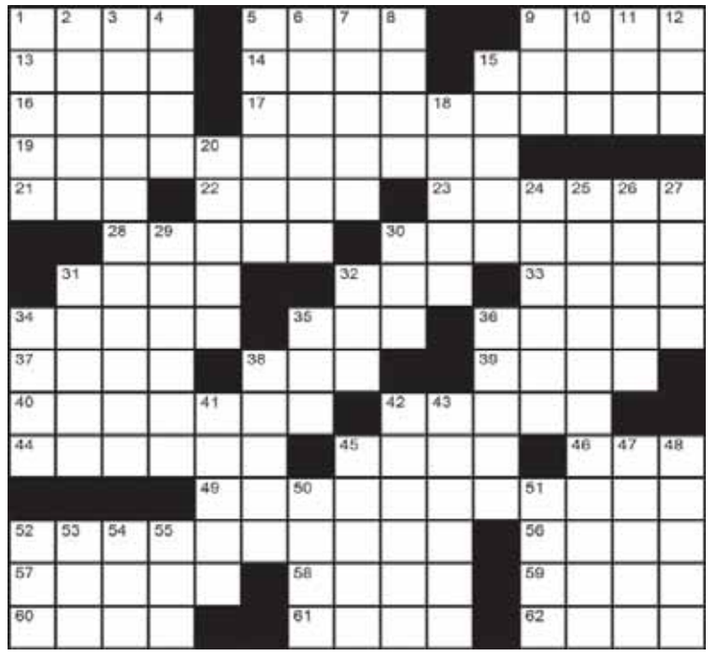
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
There is good in everybody and if you find that hard to believe what happens by the end of the day will convince you.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
There's no point getting involved in something you won't enjoy, so let those trying to persuade you to get involved know you're having none of it.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You can get almost anything you desire now. Your charm levels are such that few people will be able to deny you, no matter how outrageous some of your demands might be.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You don't lack for courage but the planets warn you could cross the line into recklessness. They also warn friends and finances won't go together over the next 24 hours.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



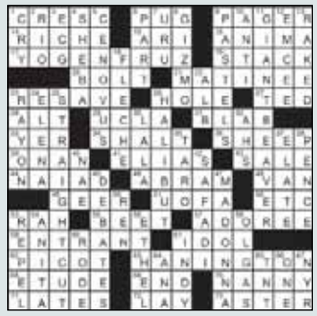
Across

1. Music Keys: F and A, e.g.
5. Robbie Robertson's "Hell's Half __"
9. Put cargo on board
13. Flu symptom
14. Tallow source
15. Ecum __, Nova Scotia
16. Zippo
17. Those who explore caves
19. Canada's largest national park, it's on the Alberta/NWT border: 2 wds.
21. Queen E.'s youngest
22. Ostrich-like birds
23. Tiredly walk
28. Gordon Lightfoot's "The Way _ __"
30. Adrian of "Entourage"
31. 'Seniors', shortened
32. "Oh, give __ _ home..."
33. Li'l legislators
34. Bakery item
35. Gamble
36. "___ __ out!" (Behave!)
37. Play _ __ (Participate in some tennis)
38. Useful souvenir
39. 'Import' suffix
40. Earth invader
42. Billy Bob Thornton series on FX Canada
44. Allocate
45. Art Deco designer
46. Canadian hwy. miles
49. Canada's Bread Basket... The Prairies sight: 2 wds.
52. "Waiting So Long" Vancouver band: 2 wds.
56. Almond hue
57. Victor Garber show
58. Artist sampled on Eminem's "Stan"
59. Air assault
60. Sci-Fi classic, "The __" (1958)
61. Actor Mr. Bean
62. Years: Spanish

Down

1. Paul McCartney's "__ __ Was Lonely"
2. Put in _ __ word (Recommend)
3. Those taking home trophies at this weekend's on-CTV-music-honouring show in Hamilton: 2 wds.
4. "The Bad __" (1956)
5. Acquire, as duties
6. Needing-sugar neighbour's request
7. Coral formations
8. "...__ __ tete, Alouette..."
9. Albanian currency
10. Deck symbol
11. Hard: French
12. British writer Mr. Forster, et al.
15. Bedroom buzzzzz...
18. 'U' of UHF
20. 'Wilde' tail (Gnu)
24. Hardly heralded like many a hero
25. Particular soda pop container: 3 wds.
26. Wishes granter
27. Formerly
29. Little Richard's "Tutti __"
30. Capture
31. Slugger Sammy's
32. "Family Guy" sister
34. Lady: Spanish
35. Veggie burger need
36. Baseball great Rod
38. Lord's house
41. "Fancy" rapper Ms. Azalea's
42. Actress Ms. Pinto
43. "News __ __" (Global News program in Toronto)
45. Oscar-winner Mr. Redmayne
47. "Extra" host Mr. Lopez
48. Earring choices
50. Chaps
51. Olympian queen
52. Concealer-applying amount
53. "__ get it!" (Telephone-ringing exclamation)
54. Macaw-starring 2011 animation
55. Bar bill

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



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Yesterday's Sudoku

4	6	9	8	7	3	2	5	1
5	8	7	2	1	9	3	6	4
2	3	1	6	4	5	7	9	8
8	4	2	1	9	6	5	7	3
3	1	5	7	2	8	9	4	6
9	7	6	5	3	4	8	1	2
7	9	4	3	8	1	6	2	5
6	2	8	4	5	7	1	3	9
1	5	3	9	6	2	4	8	7



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